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**COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
of the  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**July 12, 2007  
Minutes**

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**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. AN AUDIOCASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.**

The Community, Economic & Human Development Committee held its meeting at the SCAG office in downtown Los Angeles.

**Members Present**

Barnes, Christine	City of La Palma
Edney, Jon ( <b>Chair</b> )	City of El Centro/IVAG
Jasper, Timothy	City of Apple Valley
Lantz, Paula	City of Pomona
Lee, Laura	Gateway Cities
Loveridge, Ronald	City of Riverside
Malsin, Scott	Westside Cities COG
McCallon, Larry ( <b>Vice-Chair</b> )	City of Highland
McCullough, Kathryn	OCCOG
Morehouse, Carl	Ventura/VCOG
Mosca, Joseph	SGVCOG
Olhasso, Laura	City of Arroyo Verdugo
Ring, Bob	OCCOG
Robertson, Deborah	City of Rialto
White, Charles	WRCOG

**Members Not Present**

Chastain, Kelly	SANBAG
Coerper, Gil	City of Huntington Beach
Bayer, Anne	Gateway Cities
Fesmire, Melanie	CVAG
Garcia, Joe G.	SGVCOG
Daigle, Leslie	OCCOG
Dubois, Diana	Gateway Cities
Jeffra, Jim	Lancaster
McSweeney, Susan	City of Westlake
Norby, Chris	Orange County

### **Members Not Present (Continued)**

Nowatka, Paul	City of Torrance
Nunez, John H.	SGVCOG
Palmer, Jim	OCCOG
Perry, Jan	Los Angeles
Reyes, Ed	Los Angeles
Serrano, Joseph	Gateway Cities

#### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Hon. Jon Edney, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. Hon. Deborah Robertson led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Hon. Edney requested comments from the public. There were no comments.

#### **3.0 REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Chair requested Information Item 5.1 be moved to be heard later in the agenda, and Information Item 5.4 be moved to the top of the agenda. There was no objection.

Hon. Edney welcomed Scott Malsin, a new member to the Committee, representing Westside Cities COG. He also announced that three CEHD members have left the Committee: Cathy Green, Sid Tyler, and Mike Ten.

#### **4.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

##### **4.1 Approval Item**

##### **4.1.1 Minutes of June 7, 2007**

##### **4.1.2 State and Federal Legislative Matrix**

Hon. Edney acknowledged the modification to the State and Federal Legislative Matrix, and stated that the modification made it easier to focus on bills that directly relate to this Committee.

A **MOTION** was made by Hon. Ron Loveridge to **APPROVE** the Consent Calendar. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Hon. Larry McCallon and **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**. Hon. Kathryn McCullough, Hon. Deborah Robertson, and Hon. Scott Malsin abstained, as they were not in attendance at the June 7, 2007 meeting.

#### **5.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

##### **5.4 Overview of Community Development Division FY 07-08 Work Program**

Lynn Harris, SCAG staff, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the division's work program, and outlined the role of this Committee in the forthcoming work efforts

happening over the next fiscal year. Ms. Harris emphasized the importance of a regional plan such as Compass Blueprint and current legislation that implements the bond initiatives. She further stated that the bond initiatives create a link between local and regional planning. Ms. Harris emphasized that in order for cities to compete effectively for this money, they must show how their proposed projects will help implement the regional plan in terms of principles and policies.

At the conclusion of her presentation, Ms. Harris introduced her staff members and thanked them for their diligence in the preparation of the FY 07-08 Work Program.

Hon. Edney thanked Ms. Harris for a beneficial presentation and requested that a schedule of forthcoming CEHD projects be included in next month's agenda packet.

Hon. Robertson inquired if there was information available on Subregional Projects for FY 07-08. Ms. Harris stated that she will provide a matrix of the demonstration projects with possible integration of the subregional projects. Ms. Harris stated that at Hon. Robertson's direction, SCAG staff will provide a comprehensive list of all external work in progress.

Hon. Larry McCallon reported that the Leadership Academy was just completed at USC, and out of the twelve graduates, five were from this Committee. Hon. McCallon stated that he thought the program was excellent and encouraged members to take advantage of it in the future. Other members interested were encouraged to contact Barbara Dove, SCAG staff.

## 5.2 Committee Member Stipends

Hon. Edney provided background for this item. A discussion ensued on the perceived inequities of the existing policy, which provides a lesser stipend for non-RC members. Wayne Moore, SCAG's CFO, stated in response to Committee questions that he believed the financial impact would be minimal if the policy was changed and agreed to provide to the Regional Council a calculation of what the exact impact would be.

Joann Africa, Acting Chief Counsel, stated that she believed this could be heard at the Regional Council meeting today. A **MOTION** was made by Hon. Deborah Robertson to present to the Regional Council today, to make stipends uniform for both RC and non-RC members serving on policy committees and task forces, with a caveat that Mr. Moore will provide the financial impact of changing the policy. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by the Hon. Charles White and **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**.

### 5.3 Compass Demonstration Project: Western Riverside Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Concept Plan

Mark Butala, Program Manager, stated that the Compass staff is on its second round of demonstration projects, which this Committee approved approximately eight months ago. He further stated that over 40 demonstration projects are either in progress or completed around the SCAG region. Mr. Butala introduced Karen Gulley, the lead consultant from The Planning Center. Ms. Gulley gave a PowerPoint presentation, which outlined the results from one of the demonstration projects in Riverside County. She presented six different demonstration project areas, which were done in partnership with the Western Riverside COG. Ms. Gulley stated that in many of these areas, developers were already looking for new development and reuse of existing sites. Consequently, they were able to work with these developers and look at designing their projects to become transit oriented.

Hon. Ron Loveridge stated that he strongly supports transit oriented development, and made reference to a negative Los Angeles Times article, which focused primarily on trip generation not on density. Ms. Gulley stated that her firm is preparing a rebuttal to this article. Hon. Loveridge requested that the Los Angeles Times article and The Planning Center's rebuttal be presented for this Committee's review. Hon. Edney suggested that Staff scan the original article and the rebuttal and email them to the Committee members.

Hon. Scott Malsin suggested that when crafting the rebuttal, particular attention should be paid to the different reactions to some of the arguments about transit oriented development and transit villages.

### 5.1 Regional Comprehensive Plan Vision and Guiding Principles

Jennifer Sarnecki, Senior Regional Planner, provided a status update on the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP). Ms. Sarnecki stated that since CEHD is the host committee for the RCP, she wanted to present a synopsis of the guiding principles and vision for the RCP. She stated that she believes the importance of the RCP is that it will assist in capitalizing on state bond opportunities and the implementation of SAFETEA-LU, the new transportation bill. Ms. Sarnecki further stated that the RCP will support a sustainable region, of which the two main themes are energy constraints and climate change. The guiding principles of the RCP are based on SCAG's growth visioning principles, and the key points are improving mobility, fostering liability, enabling prosperity, and promoting sustainability.

Ms. Sarnecki stressed that while the RCP is not mandated, it may affect a city's ability to qualify for housing bond money. For example, SCAG is proposing that bond revenues be allocated to local agencies and projects as part of the Blueprint planning process. She further indicated that cities should follow what is happening with AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act, because the Attorney

General is holding cities accountable for their impact on greenhouse gas emissions.

Hon. Edney requested that the Housing and Economy Chapters be brought back to a future meeting for review.

## **6.0 CHAIR'S REPORT**

Hon. Edney suggested adding a summary sheet to the Legislative matrix, which would provide information on the most critical bills.

Hon. Loveridge suggested that rather than just observing the progress of these bills, the Committee should try to be more influential in their outcome. A "red-alert" or email blasts were suggested for soliciting support for critical bills.

Hon. Carl Morehouse suggested that the Committee be cognizant of the League of California Cities and their position on Senate and Assembly bills, so that the Committee is not at cross purposes with the League. Ms. Harris agreed, but also suggested that the League's position not be considered a recommendation or unduly influence this Committee.

## **7.0 STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Harris presented an update on SCAG's consultation role with the State Housing and Community Development Department regarding the implementation of the first round of bond money, which is the \$285M for the transit oriented development projects. She stated that HCD is seeking input from the Regional COGs to develop the criteria by which the competitive process will occur. Ms. Harris stated that in the past, HCD has based their criteria solely on housing element compliance, which resulted in many Southern California cities being ineligible. Ms. Harris pointed out that there are two pieces of legislation, SB 46 and AB 1053, that will impact how the competitive process is used for the infrastructure bond money. She further stated that SCAG's legislative staff is working on adding consistency criteria to the Regional Plan, which would create opportunities for more local governments to become competitive in the allocation of these monies. Ms. Harris stated that she will continue to provide this Committee with updates.

## **8.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

No future agenda items were noted or requested.

## **9.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

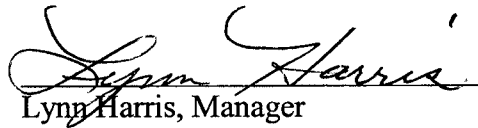
The Hon. Jon Edney presented an update on a recent trip to Washington, D.C. Hon. Edney stated that the purpose of the trip was to provide a platform to discuss the critical environmental issues facing Southern California. Hon. Edney stated that he, Harry

Baldwin, Dennis Washburn, and Mark Pisano met with staff members from Senator Boxer's and Senator Feinstein's offices, and with the Secretary of Transportation, Mary Peters. Hon. Edney stated that the goal of the meeting was to request \$200M to start the environmental work. He further stated that there is approximately \$800M in unallocated funds available through the Department of Transportation. Hon. Edney indicated that Secretary Peters' response was very favorable and SCAG staff has already been contacted by her office requesting that SCAG submit an application to request the funds.

#### 10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Edney adjourned the meeting at 11:38 AM.

Minutes Approved By:

  
Lynn Harris, Manager  
Community Development